2/9/70

Dear Harold,

Only today did I receive your 2/5. We all are glad that we could be of some help, especially now with the car. I hope this doesn't impair your car.

And even more important, I hope you are really pushing to stop smoking. You now how important it is, and while it is not for me to moralize, I strongly suggest that you do everything possible to stop. Since I have not yet (and hopefully will never) become depenent on the habitual use of certain items, it is hard for me to appreciate the problems of "breaking a habit." Yet I know few people who watch over the health as do you (my father being one of the few), and one of the biggest boosts to good or improved health would have to be to quit smoking.

Bishop-see enclosed carbon.

I'll mention this to Dick, but I think from my photos that bullets fired into cotton become slightly scorched so that they are darker than bullets which go into something wet like flesh. Compare the test bullets to the comparison ones and then look at 399. See what I mean? Also keep in mind, if someone really did plant the two front seat fragments, then at some time they had to have been fired into a medium which would cause extensive fragmentation--possibly an animal.

I am terribly excited by the impending suit. While I am somewhat ignorant of the legal backgrounds behind all of this, I must ask an obvious question: What if none of the raw materials of the panel report really do not "exist" in the DJ files? Could they be in the Archives? When I was there the first time, you seemed surprised that the Archives could provide me with a copy of the panel report and you copied my letter from them in which they told me they had it. Or could the doctors themselves have the materials? Carnes' letter also implies that he has the report that they <u>submitted</u> to Clark, not that (or including) the one Clark <u>released</u>.

That Dick is really quite a guy. He is too genrous with his work. I've never seen anyone with such unimpeachable motives. And he has made great contributions to the case. It seems that his only concern with Nichols now is that what Nichols has done will prevent you from using the materials that he has copyrighted. Dick amazes me.

All for now. Good luck and take care.

Howard